



133 Interstate Lane, Kalispell, MT 59901 | www.flatheadcd.org | 406-752-4220

CALL TO ORDER & ATTENDANCE

Chair Pete Woll called the February 22, 2021, Business meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. in the conference room.

Board members present: Pete Woll, Chair; John Ellis; Vice Chair; Lech Naumovich, Secretary/Treasurer; Donna Pridmore, Supervisor; Verdell Jackson, Supervisor; being a quorum of the Board.

Also, in attendance were Hailey Graf, Samantha Tappenbeck and Ginger Kauffman, FCD staff; Fiona Handler, Big Sky Watershed Corps Member; Kenny Breidinger and Leo Rosenthal, FWP; Mark Cahill; Kody Coxen; Gordon Ash; Scott Rumsey; Emily Harkness; Melissa Brickl; Eric Osterberg; Shawn McDonough; Sandy Heil; Sean Hinchey.

CONSENT AGENDA

A consent agenda addresses items from the normal agenda that are assumed to get unanimous consent and handles them as one item at the beginning of the meeting. After the meeting is opened, the Chair asks if any consent items need discussion and a normal vote. If any board member requests discussion on an item, it is stricken from the consent list and addressed like normal. All other items are assumed to receive consent and are passed.

Consent Agenda Item 1: Signature Authorization

Authorization for Hailey Graf to sign on behalf of Supervisors Lech Naumovich and Donna Pridmore attending the meeting virtually.

Consent Agenda Item 2: Phone Polls

- 2/3/2021 – Approved Application # *FL-2021-007, Rose Creek tributary, Day* as submitted and waive the 15-day waiting period.
Approved by Pete Woll, John Ellis, Lech Naumovich, Donna Pridmore.
- 2/3/2021 – Approved Nagy Application # *FL-2021-006, Flathead River, Nagy* with modifications per the Team Member Report and waive the 15-day waiting period.
Approved by Pete Woll, John Ellis, Lech Naumovich, Donna Pridmore.

Consent Agenda Item 3: Tabled 310's

- Devore, FL-2020-062 – tabled until spring
 - Griffin, FL-2020-067C – tabled until owner submits 310 application to move shed
 - Heil, FL2020-042C – tabled pending receipt of 310 application
 - Legacy Mtn Holdings, FL-2020-064C – tabled pending technical review
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- Legacy Mtn Holdings, FL-2021-002C – tabled pending technical review
- Sneed, FL-2021-001C – tabled pending response from complaint letter

Consent Agenda Item 4: Minutes

Approve the minutes of the January 25, 2021, Business meeting as presented.

Consent Agenda Item 5: Financial

The following bills were reviewed (Check Detail 1/20/2021 – 2/17/2021)

1. CenturyLink \$322.70 (January)
2. Whitefish Lake Institute \$617.18
3. MontanaSky Networks Inc. \$10.00
4. CenturyLink \$324.78 (February)
5. Flathead Beacon \$528.00
6. Susan Hulslander, CPA \$336.00

John Ellis motioned to “approve the consent agenda.” Lech Naumovich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

COW CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT

Phone Poll from 2/5/2021 approved the contract for engineering services for the Cow Creek Restoration Project.

John Ellis asked for details on the contract modifications and this item was removed from the consent agenda. Hailey explained that the Cow Creek Grant #218013 contract was extended until June 30, 2021; and (Task 1 – Design & Implementation) updated to use remaining funds for a preliminary design on the Duffey property downstream. Supervisors approved and Pete Woll signed the contact modification.

John Ellis motioned “to approve the 2/5/2021 phone poll approving the contract for engineering services for the Cow Creek Restoration Project.” Lech Naumovich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL

Staff explained that the credit card statements were received just today, and that the VISA payments are due 3/1/2021. The following bills were reviewed (Credit Card (CC) Check Detail 2/22/2021)

1. VISA (Hailey Graf) \$2,497.58
2. VISA (Samantha Tappenbeck) \$520.00

John Ellis motioned to “approve the CC Check Detail 2/22/2021 as presented.” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE Specific items covered under Matters of the Board & Staff.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Melissa Brickl explained that she had worked as a Hydrologist with the Montana DNRC and is now employed with Water & Environmental Technologies. She has taken over the 95 Karrow project in Whitefish which Roger Noble had previously worked on. A permit extension had been approved; however, work was delayed due to COVID-19. Melissa asked if a new application or a request for an extension should be submitted.

John Ellis stated he was supervisor for the project and asked Melissa to submit an extension request. Before an extension could be approved, an onsite inspection would first be scheduled to see what work has been done. Pete Woll noted that under normal circumstances only one extension would be approved.

310's

Birk, FL-2021-011, Flathead River, bank stabilization: Donna Pridmore explained that the landowner is applying for 550 feet of bank stabilization. An onsite inspection was scheduled for Tuesday, March 9, 1:00 P.M. at the site.

Butts, FL-2019-056C, Unnamed, complaint: Lech Naumovich explained Mr. Butts submitted the Work Completion form, however, the site is currently covered in snow and the ground is not viewable. Lech will contact the landowner.

Lech Naumovich motioned "to table until the site is viewable for a proper evaluation of the project". John Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Cahill, FL-2020-075C, Flathead River, complaint: Pete Woll explained that Mr. Cahill had done excavator work on Cahill's and the neighboring property without permits, and that applications must be submitted for work done on both properties. Kenny Breidinger and Donna Pridmore noted that brush and downed woody debris were cleared and pushed to the river side of the excavation which will create a problem at high water.

Pete Woll motioned "activity has been initiated on a perennial flowing stream without a valid permit. Mr. Cahill must submit an after-the-fact application for work done. A letter is to also be sent to the neighbor requesting submittal of an after-the-fact application." John Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Goodwin, FL-2020-067C, Mill Creek tributary, complaint: Pete Woll explained that Shawn McDonough owns the property not Goodwin. An onsite inspection was held February 3rd, and there was no evidence of a violation. Pete noted that photos submitted in the complaint were years old.

Pete Woll motioned "the activity is not a violation as defined by district rules." John Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Hinchey, FL-2021-009, Flathead River, steps: An onsite inspection was scheduled for Tuesday, March 2, 11:00 A.M. at the site.

Hodge Creek Reserve HOA, FL-2021-003, Hodge Creek, remove culvert/install pipe: Verdell Jackson explained an onsite was held 1/29/2021, and additional detailed information was requested. An email was received today, however additional detail is still

needed. Eric Osterberg explained that Brist's have water rights to a lake that is on HOA property. Beavers dammed up the area, however, a temporary solution allowing water to flow is currently in place. Kenny Breidinger noted a substantial amount of water is being held back. Additional information is still needed on where the control valve is, how deep it is in the ground, detail on stabilization around the structure to prevent it from washing out, amount of water that would be released, material used etc. Kenny noted that the structure had been in place a long time and asked if the parties involved had contacted a consultant or engineering company that could provide a detailed design. Eric stated he would like to talk with Kenny further about the details and will contact all parties involved to come up with the most cost-effective solution.

Verdell Jackson motioned "to table the application pending submittal of additional information." John Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Hughes, FL-2020-065C, Mill Creek tributary, complaint: Pete Woll explained an onsite inspection was held 2/4/2021, and there was no evidence of a violation.

Pete Woll motioned "activity is not a violation as defined by district rules." John Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Hughes, FL-2020-066C, Mill Creek tributary, complaint: Pete Woll explained an onsite inspection was held 2/4/202, and there was no evidence of a violation

Pete Woll motioned "activity is not a violation as defined by district rules." John Ellis seconded Motion carried unanimously.

Hughes, FL-2020-068C, Mill Creek tributary, complaint: Pete Woll explained the complaint was filed against Ken Marvin however Mr. Marvin has not yet submitted a complaint response.

John Ellis motioned "to send Mr. Marvin one more letter explaining that unless we receive a response by March 19, at the March 22nd Business meeting a motion will be made to forward the complaint to the county attorney." Lech Naumovich seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

InterBel, FL-2021-005, Various Streams, boring/fiber optics: Verdell Jackson explained the project is to bore under several streams. Kenny Breidinger noted that the applicant submitted additional information on 2/10/2021 regarding depth and distance. Boring will take place 5'+ below the streambed, and entrances and exits are far from the streambank. This complies with the Adopted Rules.

Verdell Jackson motioned "to approve the application with modifications submitted 2/10/2021." John Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Krachun, FL-2020-071C, Unnamed, complaint: Pete Woll and Leo Rosenthal explained the complaint was for removal of debris and trees due to a windstorm, and that work had been done in the fall. The area is between Bear Creek, Peterson Creek, and Patterson Creek and is an intermittent or ephemeral drainage off the Swan Range. There is no identifiable bed or banks, it flows seasonally, there are some cattails, it is a wet area, but it is not a perennial stream.

Pete Woll motioned “this activity is not a violation as defined by district rules.” John Ellis seconded. Motioned carried unanimously.

John Ellis motioned “the letter is to include that if the landowner intends to build a driveway in anticipation of separating the property into two lots, and the driveway requires a culvert, that he should, in an abundance of caution, apply for a 310-permit.” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Kusler, FL-2021-004, Flathead River, dock/boat lift: An onsite inspection was scheduled for Thursday, March 4, 1:00 P.M. at the site.

Lincoln Electric Coop, FL-2021-010, Cliff Creek & Tobie Creek, boring/utilities: Verdell Jackson explained the application is to bore under Cliff Creek and Tobie Creek. Kenny Breidinger added that boring will take place at least 5 feet under streams and 40+ feet back, which is within the Adopted Rules.

Verdell Jackson motioned “to approve the application as submitted.” John Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Zingo Holdings LLC, FL-2021-008, Whitefish River, fill/residence: An onsite inspection was scheduled for Thursday, March 4, 4:00 P.M. at the site.

NEW BUSINESS

Supervisor Appointments: Pete Woll explained that letters of interest and resumes have been received from four potential candidates for the two Supervisor positions. Pete encouraged applicants to become familiar with FCD processes and attend meetings virtually. Supervisors and candidates agreed that it would be prudent to meet in person. A meeting time or times will be scheduled.

Supervisor Training: Hailey Graf provided two proposals for a supervisor training/new supervisor orientation and asked the Board to select from the two submittals to move forward with training plans. Pete Woll asked Hailey to provide him with the contact information for one of the proposals so that he could look into the consultant’s background and company.

Request for Staff Title Change: Hailey Graf provided a summary proposal, updated job description and request for a job title change. Hailey noted that her current job description does not adequately describe what her duties and responsibilities are and added that other districts across the state are in the process of reviewing and updating job descriptions and titles.

Pete Woll requested a copy of her current job description and required additional time to review the request. The Supervisors discussed Hailey’s proposal and notified her that they do not support her proposal as presented. Hailey added that she is open to the Supervisor’s comments and ideas.

Legacy Mountain Holdings Technical Review: Hailey Graf explained that three proposals were received in response to the Call for Estimates for the Legacy Mountain Holdings technical review. Supervisors discussed proposals, work experience and costs.

John Ellis motioned “to retain Core Water Consulting per their response letter dated 2/9/2021 for the Legacy Mountains Holdings technical review.” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Family Forestry Expo (FFE) Funding Request: Hailey Graf explained that Forestry Expo will be taking place this year as a self-guided tour and virtual classroom lessons. Pre-recorded presentations for each station will be viewed in classrooms and will include question & answer sessions with students. The FFE planning committee submitted a request for sponsorship to help offset expenses, however, a specific amount requested was not included. Hailey noted that the planning committee is also applying for grants. Available funding in the district budget was discussed. Supervisors asked Hailey to contact the FFE Chair for additional information on actual funding needed and detail on their strategy for who they expect to reach.

Montana Watershed Coordination Council (MWCC) Watershed Funding Grant: Samantha Tappenbeck explained that funding is available through the MWCC Watershed Funding Grant program for Big Sky Watershed Corps (BSWC) members working on projects that reduce nonpoint source pollution under a watershed restoration plan. Flathead CD BSWC member, Fiona Handler, could apply for funding for an irrigation efficiency upgrade, livestock fencing and stock watering tank on Ashley Creek. The opportunity would also provide Fiona with grant writing and management experience. The application deadline is March 15th.

John Ellis motioned “to apply for the MWCC grant for our Ashley Creek project.” Donna Pridmore seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

NW Montana Fair Booth Application: Samantha Tappenbeck explained that applications for a fair booth are due by March 31st; cost is \$355. The NW Montana Fair will be held August 18 – 22 and the district booth would be in the Search & Rescue building.

John Ellis motioned “to apply for booth space at the 2021 NW Montana Fair & Rodeo in the amount of \$355.00.” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Montana Outdoor Legacy Foundation (MOLF) Riparian Improvement Project: Fiona Handler provided a proposal for a project to help restore the riparian area along Flathead River on the Montana Outdoor Legacy Foundation Property. She explained that the total project cost would be \$1,174.16, and a volunteer planting day would tentatively be held the first week of April.

Lech Naumovich motioned “to approve the MOLF Riparian Improvement Project in the amount of \$1174.16 from the Watersheds Other budget line.” John Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

End of Month Budget Report (December 2020): Copies of the December 2020 End of Month Budget Report were provided to the Board in the meeting packet.

John Ellis motioned to “approve the December End of Month Budget Report.” Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

Flathead CD Staff: Hailey Graf, Samantha Tappenbeck, Ginger Kauffman, and Fiona Handler submitted the following report:

Office and Administration

310 – To date Ginger has processed three 310-Permit Applications. Ginger and Hailey coordinated with landowners to cover essential work during the COVID-19 pandemic and to safely arrange for onsite inspections. Ginger processed minutes, 310-permits, and letters from the January business meeting. Hailey attended onsite inspections and coordinated with landowners to provide the virtual meeting attendance information.

Bookkeeping – Donna Pridmore & Ginger Kauffman reconciled the December banks statements on 1/27/2021 and Ginger processed the December End of Month Report. Lech Naumovich & Ginger Kauffman reconciled the January bank statements on 2/15/2021. The January End of Month Report is currently in process. Ginger processed payroll on February 3rd & 17th and completed February federal & state tax reports and payments. Ginger coordinated with the CPA’s office to send out 2021 W2’s and 1099s, and with the bank and supervisors regarding authorized signers on district accounts. Ginger contacted the insurance company regarding district insurance and the medical insurance Group Contract and Member Guides.

Ginger, Hailey, Lech Naumovich, and Donna Pridmore met to discuss Treasurer duties and the responsibilities and opportunities for board involvement with budgeting and financial planning.

District Office – Weekly staff meetings were held via Zoom each Monday at 2 PM. Staff also met on February 11 to discuss migrating FCD digital files to the office SharePoint site. We will work with Byte Savvy Computer Services to transfer the files over two weekends so work in the office is not impacted. This change will better allow staff to collaborate on joint projects and will provide another backup source for all our files.

Legislative – The FCD sponsored Resolution for the Study of Erosion on Flathead River has been carried to the Legislature by Senator Mark Blasdel. It is listed as LC2292 as an Interim Study Resolution. Hailey will work with Jason Mohr for bill drafting. Additional details can be found on the [Montana Legislature Detailed Bill Information Page](#).

Hailey attended the MACD Legislative Ad Hoc Committee meetings on January 26 and February 2, 9, and 16. She monitored legislative action pertinent to FCD and provided Supervisors with updates. She also drafted written testimony on behalf of the FCD for HB 2 and SJ 6. Below is a summary of current bills.

[SB 20](#) - River Councils for state water plan. No updates. Amendments expected.

[HB 30](#) - CD Election Law clarification. Bill tabled.

[HB 6](#), [HB 7](#), and [HB 14](#) are all currently being discussed in committee. These bills are regarding the Renewable Resource Grants and Loans program through DNRC. Legislators have discussed maintaining this funding but adjusting how applications are ranked.

[HB 374](#) - Transfer of funding for CARDD from coal severance tax to the general fund. Hearing was on Monday, Feb 15.

[SJ 06](#) – Floodplain permit process. FCD provided written testimony as proponent. Hearing held on Feb 16.

Trainings – Hailey is taking an online Business Management training through FVCC and Samantha completed a self-paced, Intermediate WordPress training through FVCC. Ginger is taking a self-paced, Intermediate QuickBooks training through FVCC.

Fiona attended several trainings hosted by the Big Sky Watershed Corps program. These virtual trainings took place over two weeks and covered general orientation topics and more specific outreach and education topics. Some of the topics were: Montana's tribes, watersheds 101, grant writing, risk mitigation, ESRI's ArcGIS StoryMaps, workplace communication, and social media outreach.

NACD Convention – Samantha presented information about the Flathead Pollinator Initiative at the NACD annual convention. Hailey, Samantha, and Ginger attended several breakout sessions of the convention focused on partnerships, communication, and project development.

On-the-Ground Projects

Cow Creek Restoration Project – WGM Group has been contracted to conduct an alternatives analysis and preliminary project design for expanding the project to an additional property.

Trumbull Creek – Hailey wrote the annual report and worked with Ginger to submit the report, match tracker, billing statement, and invoices to DRNC.

Krause Creek – An updated scope of work and schedule was approved by DNRC and the EPA. Funding for this project is expected to be released in Spring, 2021 and contracting with DRNC will begin at that point.

Montana Outdoor Legacy Foundation Revegetation Project – Fiona and Hailey visited the MOLF property near Eagle Bend Subdivision to determine feasibility of a revegetation project. The project would reduce erosion along the Flathead River by restoring some of the native riparian area. It would also provide a great opportunity for engagement and education with the adjacent landowners in Eagle Bend Subdivision. For this project to move forward the board will be asked to vote on a proposed budget that includes native plant species and planting supplies. Once the plants and supplies are secured, we will schedule a volunteer planting day for some time this Spring.

Programs

Conservation Grant Program – There are currently seven open contracts, one from FY19/20 that was granted an extension, and six in FY20/21. Funded practices include weed control, reforestation, native seeding, wildlife habitat improvement, riparian buffer

improvement, bank stabilization, and windbreaks. The application period for FY21/22 opened on January 1. We have received several inquiries, two applications (one withdrawn).

Seedling Program – FCD is accepting orders through March 15th. We have received and submitted six orders to date. Samantha provided information to landowners about the ordering process and access to the current inventory and reviewed and approved one conservation plan. Samantha consulted with Nursery staff about the procedure used by FCD compared to other conservation districts.

Education Grant Program – FCD has funded three contracts in FY20/21 for projects that develop a conservation curriculum for preschoolers (in progress), plant native-species at the Center for Sustainability and Entrepreneurship (complete) and expand a program that uses hydroponic tower gardens to teach students about growing and supplying food (complete). This program has a rolling deadline and closes during the month of June to close out fiscal year.

College Scholarship Program – The application period for 2021 College Scholarships is now open. Samantha distributed program information to Flathead County schools and educators. We advertised in the Glacier Values February-March mailing which reaches 45,000 people in the Flathead Valley. Applications are due March 15th and will be compiled and prepared for review at the FCD meeting on March 22nd.

Watershed Support Program – We received one application from a landowner on Middle Ashley Creek. The application was incomplete, but Samantha is assisting the landowner with project development and permit applications, and is connecting her with technical assistance from NRCS, DNRC, and local contractors. Samantha and Fiona visited on site with the land manager and a contractor to discuss the project on 2/7/21. The project includes three components: an efficiency repair/upgrade to the irrigation system, riparian livestock fencing, and an off-site livestock water tank.

Pollinator Initiative – 44 people have indicated interest in participating in this program. 20 pollinator plots (0.7 acres) were seeded in spring and fall 2020. Samantha presented about the Pollinator Initiative alongside Lake County CD and Gallatin CD during a breakout session at the National Association of Conservation Districts meeting.

Education and Outreach

Workshops and Events – Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, most in-person events have been canceled or postponed. Staff continues to work with partner organizations to plan alternative outreach opportunities and reschedule events when it is safe to resume gatherings.

- **Land Stewardship Series:** Samantha is working with partners to convert the series of workshops targeted to small acreage landowners to a webinar series that will be facilitated by FCD. Webinars will take place every Wednesday (Feb 17-March 31) and cover a variety of topics including soil health & composting, pasture management, wildlife conflict management, forestry pests & diseases, wildfire preparedness, septic system BMPs, and noxious weeds ID & control. We have advertised in the Flathead Beacon, eNewsletter, Facebook, on posters

(CHS, Murdochs in Kalispell and Columbia Falls, Western Building Center in Whitefish, Sliters in Bigfork)

- **Family Forestry Expo:** Hailey, Samantha, and Fiona attended two Forestry Expo planning meetings and worked with a subcommittee to explore options for hosting education events during COVID. Based on the information gathered, the Forestry Expo steering committee has decided to update the existing interpretive signs and add additional educational signs around the trail to create a self-guided tour option. We will also work with a local videographer to create a series of short videos that can be used by teachers or viewed on the Expo website and Facebook page.

Advertisements – FCD ran advertisements about the Land Stewardship Seminar in the Flathead Beacon (Feb 10, Feb 24) and on Facebook. We also advertised the College Scholarships Program in Glacier Values (Feb/March issue) which reaches 45,000 people in the Flathead Valley.

Website and Social Media – Over the past 30 days, the website was viewed 2,035 times, with 79% new (vs. returning) visitors. The most viewed pages and posts were the FCD homepage, a blog post about the life history of larch trees, and a blog post about heeling in bareroot plants. Over the same period, the FCD Facebook page gained 18 new followers, posts reached 13,439 people, and there were 868 post engagements. The most engaging posts were about joining the Flathead CD Board and an informational post about the importance of browse on dormant vegetation for overwintering wildlife.

eNewsletter – The Local Dirt was distributed on 2/1/2021 and included information about upcoming events, available programs, a partner profile, blog post, and 310 permitting information. It was opened 309 times by 138 people and clicked 54 times. The most-clicked links were to the Land Stewardship Seminar registration, a blog post about the Montana snow report, and the Conservation Grant Program. The current mailing list includes 307 people.

Partnerships

- Hailey attended the MACD Leadership meetings on January 29 and the weekly MACD Legislative Ad Hoc Committee meetings each Tuesday.
- Hailey attended the Flathead Basic Commission meeting on January 19 and the Upper Columbia Commission meeting on February 12.
- Hailey and Samantha participated in the monthly CD Roundtable discussion hosted by MACD and the Employee Organization
- Hailey attended the Fire Safe Flathead quarterly meeting on January 28.
- Hailey met with representatives from NRCS and Fire Safe Flathead to discuss possible opportunities for funding a forest health and fuels reduction project near Little Bitterroot Lake.
- Hailey, Samantha, and Fiona attended two Forestry Expo planning meetings and worked with a subcommittee to explore options for hosting education events during COVID
- Samantha and Fiona met with Lake County CD regarding Flathead Basin Wastewater Partnership and coordinated outreach efforts between MACD Septic Cost-share and FCD Watershed Support Program

Natural Resources & Conservation Service (NRCS): Sean Johnson submitted the following report:

➤ **Programs**

- Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) – Sign-up deadline of November 17th
 - Joint Chief's (JC) Proposal
 - Meeting on 2/22 to determine how to repackage Joint Chief's for next year's application process
 - Submitted 3 TIPs for 2022 funding that went through the first review last week with very positive remarks by reviewers
 - Wedge Canyon – North Fork
 - Little Bitterroot Lake
 - Irrigation Improvements for Lower Valley
- Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)
 - Both of our CSP renewal applications were funded
 - Developing contracts for those two

➤ **Review Items**

- Joint Chief's meeting – 2/22

➤ **Upcoming Items**

- Firesafe Flathead meeting was cancelled
- TIPs back from State Office Reviews on 3/5

➤ **Miscellaneous**

- All FPAC offices are currently frozen from moving forwards in COVID opening protocols but we can move backwards if needed. New guidelines are being developed for office to start moving forwards in re-opening phases.
- Snow Survey – Feb 1st Snow Survey Report
 - Flathead basin at 84% of normal
 - Sub Basins range from 69% (Little Bitterroot) up to 97% (Middle Fork Flathead)

Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD): No report.

Flathead County Planning Board (FCPB): Verdell Jackson reported a proposed subdivision on Echo Lake did not pass.

Whitefish City Planning Board (WCPB): No report.

Haskill Basin Watershed Council (HBWC): No report.

Flathead Basin Commission (FBC): No report.

MATTERS OF THE BOARD/STAFF

Permit Paperwork: Pete Woll requested a special meeting be held to discuss updates needed to the 310-permit paperwork. The Board, Staff and FWP will meet Wednesday,

March 10, 9:00 A.M. to review procedures for permit administration. Pete Woll and John Ellis will coordinate with Hailey on an agenda.

Updates to Supervisor Handbook: Hailey Graf explained that the Supervisors Handbook needs to be updated, and that she will be pulling information together. She asked Supervisors what they would like in the handbook and what would be beneficial for incoming supervisors. John Ellis offered to bring his handbook in to the office.

Montana Women in Agriculture Project: Hailey Graf explained that DNRC is planning a 2nd edition to a project on oral histories from women in ag across Montana. DNRC is seeking information on women involved in agriculture in Flathead County that may be interested in doing an interview.

Retirement Book: Hailey Graf explained DNRC is requesting districts submit, as mementos of appreciation, a page that include photos, stories, and notes for DNRC retirees Laurie Zeller, Karl Christians, Jane Holzer, Duane Claypool, and Linda Brander. The pages will be combined into books for the retirees. The request includes a donation of \$5.00 per page. Information can be forwarded to Hailey.

Retired Flathead CD Supervisors: Supervisors discussed posting information on the district website and submitting letters to local newspapers in honor of retirement of Supervisors Ronald Buentemeier and Lori Curtis. John Ellis volunteered to draft a letter and email to the Board for review.

Upper Columbia Conservation Commission (UC3) Appointment: Hailey Graf explained that Lori Curtis resigned from UC3 as the Conservation District representative and Chair. The UC3 is an administrative attachment to the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation and is advertising the vacancy for a Conservation District representative. Interested candidates must submit applications to the Governor's office. Hailey explained that she would be interested in applying, if approved by the Board. Supervisors explained that they would not support Hailey in applying unless she did it on her own time and not as a District representative.

Soil Health Innovations Virtual Conference (SHIVC): Hailey Graf explained the SHIVC will be held March 8-9, 2021, with live-streamed speakers and panels. Registration fee of \$75.00 is due February 28th. Hailey stated that she is interested in attending and asked if anyone else would like to attend.

Lech Naumovich motioned "to approve Hailey Graff virtually attending the SHIVC with a registration fee of \$75." Donna Pridmore seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Watershed Stewardship Awards: Hailey Graf explained that the Montana Wetland Council and the Watershed Coordination Council are seeking nominations for the 2021 Montana Wetland and Watershed Stewardship Awards. Nominations are due March 4th. Hailey suggested nominating the landowners that participated in the Cow Creek Restoration Project.

John Ellis motioned "to have Flathead CD submit a nomination for the Watershed Steward Awards for the for the landowners for their work on the Cow Creek project."

Verdell Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Hailey will submit a draft to John for review.

The next Business meeting is scheduled for March 22, 2021, 6:00 P.M. via ZOOM.

Adjournment: Lech Naumovich “to adjourn.” Donna Pridmore seconded. Motion carried unanimously. As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:23 P.M.

Submitted By:

Ginger Kauffman
Administrator

Hailey Graf
Resource Conservationist

Minutes approved by FCD Board motion made on:

<u>3/22/2021</u>	<u>Pete Woll</u>	<u>Chair</u>
(Date)	(Signature)	(Title – Chair etc.)